

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2013 Kotzebue News Release #15
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 4 hours from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Friday, July 26 in the Kotzebue District.

Catch during last night's 6-hour opening was 11,894 chum salmon by 41 permit holders. The number of permit holders fishing was the highest of the season.

The commercial harvest this season is expected to be within the range of 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon if market conditions can accept that level of harvest. The commercial harvest to date is over 80,000 chum salmon. Last year by this date the harvest was 63,000 chum salmon and total harvest for the season was nearly 228,000 chum salmon.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.